



## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

27 OCTOBER 2021

### (U) CALIFORNIA

#### (U) Palmdale – Man Drives Vehicle into Anti-Vaccination Mandate Protest, One Injured

(U) A man drove into a protest against vaccination mandates Saturday afternoon in Palmdale, California, injuring at least one person, authorities said. William Aslaksen, 64, was arrested after he got into his car and ran into a crowd at a vaccination mandate rally, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said. Aslaksen was alleged to have argued with protesters, gotten into his vehicle, and rammed into the group on the sidewalk. A woman, who was not identified, was injured but stable, authorities said.

SOURCE: 24 October 2021, [NBC News](#)

#### (U) Sacramento – Unemployment Fraud Reaches \$20 Billion

(U) California has given away at least \$20 billion to criminals in the form of fraudulent unemployment benefits, state officials said Monday, confirming a number smaller than originally feared but one that still accounts for more than 11% of all benefits paid since the start of the pandemic. State officials blamed nearly all the fraud on a hastily approved expansion of unemployment benefits by Congress that let people who were self-employed get weekly checks from the government with few safeguards to stop people from getting benefits who were not eligible to receive them. The pandemic ushered in widespread fraud at unemployment agencies across the country, with at least \$87 billion in fraudulent payments approved by states, according to a June report from the inspector general's office at the US Department of Labor.

SOURCE: 26 October 2021, [Associated Press](#)

### (U) NATIONAL

#### (U) District of Columbia – ISIS in Afghanistan Could Be Able to Attack US in Six Months, Official

(U) Washington – The US intelligence community has assessed that the Khorasan affiliate of the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS-K) based in Afghanistan could have the capability to attack the United States in as little as six months, and has the intention to do so, a senior Pentagon official told Congress yesterday. The remarks by Colin Kahl, Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, are the latest reminder that Afghanistan could still pose serious national security concerns for the US even after it ended its two-decade-old war in August. In testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee, Kahl said it was still unclear whether the Taliban can fight ISIS-K effectively following the US withdrawal in August. The US fought the Taliban as well as striking groups like al-Qa'ida and ISIS-K.

SOURCE: 26 October 2021, [Reuters](#)

#### (U) Missouri – Drug Sniffing Dog Finds 50-Pounds of Meth at Bus Station

(U) Kansas City – A drug-sniffing dog found nearly 50-pounds of methamphetamine during a search of a Greyhound bus station in Kansas City known by authorities as a stop used by drug traffickers to transport narcotics across the country. Detectives on a federal narcotics task force were searching the luggage compartment of a bus Monday, when a K-9, signaled to handlers that a red Samsonite roller bag might contain illegal drugs, according to a complaint filed in the US District of Western Missouri. The bag, destined for Columbus, Ohio, was picked up by a man who was then questioned by police. Police

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asked for consent to search the bag but were not given permission, according to court records. They arrested its carrier, Anthony W. Lamar, 27, on suspicion of drug possession. A pistol loaded with 15 rounds was taken from his right hip as he was taken into custody, the federal complaint said.

SOURCE: 26 October 2021, [The Kansas City Star](#)

### **(U) INTERNATIONAL**

#### **(U) Iraq – 11 Killed in ISIS Attack**

(U) Baghdad – ISIS Gunmen attacked a village northeast of Baghdad yesterday, killing at least 11 civilians and wounding six others, Iraqi security officials said. The officials said the attack occurred in the predominantly Shiite village of al-Rashad northeast of Baqouba in Diyala province. The circumstances of the attack were not immediately clear, but two officials said ISIS militants had kidnapped two villagers earlier and then raided the village when their demands for ransom were not met. Attacks targeting civilians have become rare in Iraq since ISIS was largely defeated in the country in 2017, although it remains active through sleeper cells in many areas. Militants from the Sunni Muslim extremist group still conduct operations, often targeting security forces, power stations and other infrastructure.

SOURCE: 26 October 2021, [Associated Press](#)

#### **(U) Nigeria – Gunmen Kill 18 at Mosque**

(U) Maiduguri – Armed men on motorbikes killed at least 18 people at a mosque in Niger state in northern Nigeria. The attackers arrived in the Maza-Kuka community of Mashegu local government area at roughly 5 a.m., residents said. Armed bandits operating for cash have kidnapped or killed hundreds across northwest Nigeria this year, but Niger state and local government officials also recently said that Islamist militant group Boko Haram had taken over multiple communities in the state, offering villagers money, and incorporating them in their ranks to fight the government.

SOURCE: 26 October 2021, [Reuters](#)

#### **(U) Uganda – ISIS Linked Group Carries Out Suicide Attack on Bus**

(U) Kampala – A suicide bomber from a group linked to ISIS triggered Monday's bus explosion near the Ugandan capital Kampala, police said yesterday. The attack that wounded several people appears connected to another bombing on Saturday in Kampala that killed one person, police added. The 23-year-old assailant who wore a suicide vest and belt was "on the wanted list of members" of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), police added. The ADF, historically a Ugandan rebel group, has been accused of killing thousands of civilians in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). In March the United States officially linked the ADF to ISIS.

SOURCE: 26 October 2021, [Associated Foreign Press](#)

### **(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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